

Art Unit: 3727

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1. A device for use in a system for making intraluminal anastomoses between hollow structures by mechanical means, comprising an annular or tubular element separate from the hollow structures and including joining means formed circumferentially thereon for joining the abutting walls of the hollow structures together, wherein said annular element is permanently deformable from a first diameter in the starting position to a second, larger diameter in the joining position, and wherein said joining means comprises a number of pin-shaped elements which are circumferentially provided on said annular element, and which are movable or deformable between a starting position and a joining position in order to hold the abutting walls together.

2. A device according to claim 1, which is intended for intraluminal side-to-side anastomosis, wherein respectively two pin-shaped elements are provided at the same position, seen in circumferential direction, wherein at least the free ends of two associated pin-shaped elements are spaced apart in the starting position, seen in axial direction, whilst they have been moved together in the joining position.

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6. A device according to claim 1, which is intended for making an intraluminal side-to-side anastomosis or an end-to-side anastomosis, wherein the pin-shaped elements extend at least substantially axially in the starting position and wherein said pin-shaped elements can be bent to the joining position deviating from the axial position, for example a substantially radial or tangential position or the like, so as to make a joint.

7. An applicator for use with a device for making anastomoses between hollow structures by mechanical means according to claim 1, comprising:

a shank-like element; a head connected to the distal end of the shank-like element for supporting and activating joining means of the device to be provided thereon, said head having radially expandable means which are expandable from a first diameter supporting the device in a starting position to a second, larger diameter, and having axially contractible means adapted to move or deform said joining means of the device from the starting position to the joining position in order to hold abutting walls of the hollow structures together; and control means for controlling the radially expandable and axially contractible means, of the head.

8. An applicator according to claim 7, wherein the head can be adjusted in such a manner that the pin-shaped elements of the device are moved or deformed from the starting position to the joining position when said adjusting takes place.

Claims 9-14 cancelled.

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